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STATUS OF USSR HYDROELECTRIC POWER  
CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS, AS OF EARLY 1955

This report presents, in tabular form, references to new USSR hydroelectric power stations from available 1955 Soviet newspapers. The purpose of this survey is to determine, if possible, the intentions of the USSR government, following recent policy decisions to favor heavy industry, in respect to large-scale hydroelectric power projects which had been started but were still in an early stage of construction.

Projects considered to fall in this category are the Arzni, Bukhtarma, Cheboksary, Kaunas, Novosibirsk, Ufa, and Votkinsk Hydroelectric power stations, as well as a group of stations in the Georgian SSR (Khrum No 2, Gumat, Tkibuli, etc.) which are usually considered as a group. (All but the Ufa project were discussed in FDD Summary No 274.)

The Bukhtarma, Cheboksary, Kaunas, Novosibirsk, and Votkinsk stations were mentioned in the 1952 directives of the 19th Party Congress on the Fifth Five-Year Plan. References to the Ufa Hydroelectric Power Station (apparently also referred to as the Pavlovskaya GES or Bashkirskaya GES) were first noted in the Soviet press in autumn 1954.

Of these projects, all but the Arzni and Cheboksary stations were mentioned in available issues of the press for early 1955; the evidence indicates that the government intends to go ahead with their construction. In discussions on the 1955 budget in the Supreme Soviet USSR, the government was urged to allocate greater capital investments for the Novosibirsk and Kaunas hydroelectric power stations, so that construction could be expedited.

The survey of 1955 newspapers included Pravda, Izvestiya, and Stroitel'naya Gazeta for the period 1 January-10 March and all available central and provincial newspapers through early February.

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The source abbreviations of the newspapers cited in the survey are as follows:

I	Izvestiya, Moscow
SG	Stroitel'naya Gazeta, Moscow
P	Pravda, Moscow
ZV	Zarya Vostoka, Tbilisi
SLi	Sovetskaya Litva, Vil'nyus
LZ	Leninskoye Znamya, Petrozavodsk
TI	Turkmenskaya Iskra, Ashkhabad

Status of New USSR Hydroelectric Power  
Construction Projects as of Early 1955

<u>Construction Project</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Linear Inches</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Bukhtarminskaya GES	I, 4 Jan 55, p 1	3	Article states that builders of the Bukhtarminskaya GES completed the 1954 program of construction and installation work ahead of schedule. By using local construction materials and by utilizing technical equipment more extensively, the cost of work was reduced 13 percent.
			Almost one million cubic meters of earthwork, or 1.5 times the annual plan, was completed in 1954. Removal of rock at the site of the navigable lock was started.
	SG, 9 Jan 55, p 4	3	Same information as above. In addition, article mentions that construction of a cofferdam for the right-bank excavation is in progress.
	SG, 16 Jan 55, p 1	7	According to this dispatch, a new electoral okrug. Serebryanskiy Okrug, has been formed in Vostochno-Kazakhstanskaya Oblast, on the basis of the large settlement of Serebryanka which has been developed in the last 2 years by the builders of the Bukhtarminskaya GES.
			In 1954, over 12,500 square meters of housing, an intermediate school, a nursery, a hospital, a mechanized bakery, three steam boilers, and a water system went into use. A railroad and highway now connect Serebryanka with Ust'-Kamenogorsk.
			Over 17,000 square meters of housing are to be built in 1955, and 35,000 cubic meters of concrete are to be placed in the spillway part of the dam.

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<u>Construction Project</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Linear Inches</u>	<u>Comment</u>
	SG, 18 Feb 55, p 1	3	Article mentions that the right-bank construction sector has pledged early completion of the cofferdam before the spring floodwaters. Usually a cofferdam is built from two sides simultaneously; the builders have decided to work from four directions.
	6 Mar 55, p 1	4	Much the same information as contained in SG, 16 Jan 55. In addition, this article mentions a total of 18,000 square meters of existing housing space and 500 standard-design individual houses in Serebryanka. The cofferdam around the first-phase excavation is to be completed in March 1955.
Georgian SSR Hydroelectric Power Projects	ZV, 19 Jan 55, p 3	1.5	Article states that large-scale electric power projects now under construction in the Georgian SSR include Khramskaya GES No 2, Tkibul'skaya GES, the Gumat Hydroelectric Power Stations, and others. When these stations are put in operation, the electric power output of the Georgian Republic will be 2.5 times its 1950 output.
Kaunasskaya GES	SLi. 6 Feb 55, p 2	3	In a speech on the 1955 state budget delivered in the Supreme Soviet USSR, Deputy M. A. Gedvilas of the Lithuanian SSR stated that the technical documents for the Kaunasskaya GES were ready and that construction could begin if funds were provided. He requested the Council of Ministers USSR to provide sufficient funds in 1955 so that at least a start could be made in construction of the power station.
Novosibirskaya GES	P, 9 Jan 55, p 1	2	Item reports that the builders of the Novosibirskaya GES exceeded the annual plan in 1954 and have now started erecting the main structures -- the power station and the navigable lock. The first 50,000 meters of concrete have been placed.

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Construction Project	Source	Linear Inches	Comment
	SG, 30 Jan 55, p 2	12	Photograph shows construction of the trestle bridge for delivering concrete in the excavation for the hydroelectric power station.
	I, 6 Feb 55, p 7	2	In discussing the USSR State Budget for 1955, I. D. Yakovlev, a deputy to the Supreme Soviet USSR from Novosibirskaya Oblast, complained that construction of the Novosibirskaya GES, which was started in 1951, was proceeding very slowly. He declared that the project could use twice the capital investments allotted for 1955 and urged the government to increase investments for the year to 300 million rubles. This, he said, would enable the first phase of the station to go into operation at the end of 1956.
Ufimskaya GES	LS, 6 Jan 55, p 1	16	Photograph of general view of the construction site. Caption under photograph states that all preliminary work at the site has been completed and that a cofferdam has been erected around the excavation for the spillway of the power station. The machine room of the power station will be located inside the reinforced-concrete spillway dam. There will also be reinforced-concrete locks and earthen dams.
	TI, 7 Jan 55; p 1	16	Same photograph and caption as in LZ, 6 Jan 55.
Votkinskaya GES	TI, 29 Jan 55, p 1	9	Photograph showing steam shovel loading earth into railroad dump cars for construction of railroad spur from Kvarsa station. Caption says that a motor road 23 kilometers long is also under construction.

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